

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to priority and receipt of the copies of the priority documents, in item 1 at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action.

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 2 are amended and new claim 3 is added by the present amendment.

Objections to the Specification

The outstanding Office Action objected to the specification for an informality and for improper incorporation by reference. In response to this objection, the specification is amended only to correct the informality noted in the outstanding Office Action. The specification is also amended to remove the text incorporating Korean Patent Application No. 2003-82288 by reference.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this objection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as unpatentable over Figure 1 of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (herein "AAPA"); and claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over AAPA and Korean Patent Publication No. 2002-045110 to Hwang (herein "Hwang"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a fixing member formed of a plastic material and fixed to the rear part of the glove box by screws, the fixing member having a fitting protrusion formed integrally with the fixing member at one side thereof,” support for which is found in the originally-filed specification at least at page 7, lines 2-4.

In a non-limiting example, FIG. 2 shows the fitting protrusion 23 (which is integrated with the fixing member 22) formed at one side of the fixing member 22 is fitted in the hole or the groove formed at the fitting piece 26 of the damper 25, and then the fixing member 22 equipped with the damper 25 is placed on the rear part of the glove box 21 (see the specification at page 7, lines 2-16). Also, the fixing member 22 is made of a plastic material (see the specification at page 7, line 17).

As a result, instability of the glove box may be prevented when the glove box is locked, and the damper may be fixed to the fixing member without additional fixing parts. Further, assembly may be made easier, with reduced manufacturing cost of the damper assembly (see the specification at page 7, lines 18-23).

In contrast, FIG. 1 of AAPA shows a screw 16 which is separate from and independent of the metal bracket 13. Therefore, AAPA does not teach or suggest at least “fixing member having a fitting protrusion formed integrally with the fixing member at one side thereof,” as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Moreover, as acknowledged in item 7 at page 3 of the outstanding Office Action, Figure 1 of AAPA “lack(s) the fixing member being made of a plastic material.” In addition, it is noted that Hwang recites “Each damper 5 comprises a synthetic resin support plate,” which synthetic resin support plate is part of the damper 5. Therefore, in Hwang **it is merely the damper 5** which includes “a synthetic resin support plate;” however, **the damper 5 of Hwang does not correspond to “a fixing member formed of a plastic material”** (*emphasis added*), as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted amended independent claim 1 and claim 2 depending therefrom patentably distinguish over AAPA and Hwang.

Also, claim 2 is amended to recite “the damper is made of a plastic material” to set forth the invention in a varying scope, support for which is found in the originally-filed specification at least at page 1, lines 13-20. In addition, new claim 3 is also added to set forth the invention in a varying scope. Support for the features of new claim 3 is found in the originally-filed specification at least in FIG. 2 and at page 4, lines 17-19, and new claim 3 is believed to be allowable at least for similar reasons as discussed above for independent claim 1 (from which new claim 3 depends). It is believed no new matter is added by the amendments to claim 2 and the addition of claim 3.

Conclusion

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based on the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes he has now done so.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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